

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF
VILNA**

IN THE PROVINCE OF ALBERTA, HELD ON MONDAY APRIL 15, 2013
IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS OF THE VILLAGE OF VILNA MUNICIPAL OFFICE

PRESENT: Mayor Don Romanko
Deputy Mayor Frank Barry
Councillor Ron Farmer

Loni Leslie, Chief Administrative Officer
Earla Wagar, Administration

ABSENT: Kevin Smith, Public Works

GALLERY: Richard Jean from Joly, McCarthy & Dion
Wanda Goudy, ATCO Electric
Brian Roy, ATCO Electric
Chris Barnes, ATCO Electric
Roger Turcotte, ATCO Electric

ORDER: Mayor Romanko called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

1. AGENDA:

Res. 059-13 Councillor Farmer moved the agenda be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

2. DELEGATION:

a. Richard Jean from Joly McCarthy & Dion

- a) Mr. Jean presented the Financial Statements for the year ended December 31, 2012 to Council. He indicated that the Village is in an increasingly stronger position, although it will take 8 to 10 years of austerity with the community accepting basic services rather than severe tax increases, before the total deficit can be erased. The report indicated that the debt had been reduced by \$55,931.00. Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets accounts for \$125,341.00 of expenditures. With the Net Revenues of \$639,715.00, less Net Expenditures of 694,252.00 minus the Amortization of Tangible Capital Assets indicates that the Village closed the year with a net surplus of \$70,804.00. Mr. Jean did recommend that the Tangible Capital Assets be included in the 2013 operating budget, but subtracted from the net operational dollars prior to calculating the taxable revenues.

Mayor Romanko thanked Mr. Joly for his presentation and Richard then excused himself from the meeting.

Res 60-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the 2012 Financial Statements be accepted as presented.

**b. ATCO Electric regarding Franchise Agreement
Renewal**

The Electrical Franchise Agreement is presented for renewal each 10 years. AUMA has prepared a template for electrical franchise agreements which has been approved by Alberta Environment. The proposed agreement will allow ATCO to continue to exclusively distribute electrical power to the Village of Vilna for the next 10 years. Wanda Goudy explained the franchise agreement proposal and described the options of street lighting Investment Option Rates, Non-Investment Rates and Municipally Owned street lighting. She has agreed to prepare a cost comparison between the Investment Option and the Non-Investment Option for the Village. She has also indicated that she will look into the ATCO meter reading service. Ms. Goudy provided a brief summary to Council of the results of the provincial initiative to deregulate power generation and the effect this has had on users.

Res 061-13 Moved Mayor Romanko that 1st reading be given to Bylaw 498-13, Electric Franchise Agreement Bylaw.

CARRIED

3. MINUTES:

- a. Regular Council Meeting March 18th, 2013

Res. 062-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer that the minutes of March 18, 2013 Regular Council meeting be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

4. BUSINESS ARISING:

5. REPORTS:

**ADMINISTRATION REPORT & PUBLIC WORKS REPORT
Presented by CAO, Loni Leslie**

- The tax arrears list has been prepared and forwarded to the appropriate departments for registration of tax notifications on titles. There were 12 property owners affected, 3 of whom have already made or will be making payments on these arrears.
- Kevin has used the grader to repair 52nd street between the highway and the trail, however we now have essentially a gravel road. We will see what

we can get for reasonable dust control down for the homeowners along there, as well as for 49th Street and 49A Avenue.

- Issues with the water treatment plant with the fire pump engine and with flow metering have either been addressed or solutions/repairs are underway. We have not released the holdback for the completion of the treatment plant, as we await certifications from the engineer that sub-contractors have been paid and that no WCB claims are ongoing as a result of the work for the contractor.
- A simple single telephone line has been installed in the WTP for the auto dialer which will alert us to problems in the plant, or “out of limit” situations.
- There are some new wastewater regulations in place, and there is a webinar being held on Thursday by AWWOA. Kevin will be away that day, so I will attend.
- The Chamber representative looking after the calendar has shown (in the April calendar) the Emergency Prep meeting on May 6th in the Village office. He will put it in the May calendar as well. Also, when the March/April utility billing goes out, a notice will be sent for the meeting as well.
- The Smoky Lake Foundation has requested a copy of the Village’s financial statement once it has been ratified this evening.
- Kevin has reported to me that the hydrovac was used for Smoky Lake Natural Gas only two hours, approximate cost \$420.00.
- We have not received the operating MSI monies into our account, however all questions have been answered where Municipal Affairs staff had them. The MSI Capital request should be approved shortly, as we have not heard anything further from that department after the Commission and the Department spoke to one another.
- I will be meeting on April 22 with Susan White with Rural Development Alberta Business Centres to discuss the set-up of the business centre here.
- Carmen Shankowsky has completed the Transfer Station training in Stony Plain and now feels she has a good handle on what needs to be done. I put her together with Dave F. and Kevin to discuss these needs.
- I will be attending an election workers webinar on April 17 for 1.5 hours, offered through AUMA.
- A development permit for a shed was approved for a property at the end of 51 Avenue. The wait time expires April 24th.
- At the Joint Muni meeting on April 8, I spoke to Bernice about water meters. I will be obtaining information from her regarding the contractor she used as she was very happy with the work. ATCO Bonnyville should

be getting back to me shortly regarding perhaps improving the performance of the electronic readers in the short term, until we have some money put away for changing over all meters.

- David Murray Architect has requested a development permit for the reconstruction of the residential portion of the Pool Hall.
- We will be meeting with our advisor from Alberta ESRD, Terry McGinn, regarding the Drinking Water Safety plan that is required by December 31, 2013.
- The contractor for the Bonnie Lake Campground, Allan Marsh, reviewed and signed the contract, he should begin the spring work as soon as the snow has gone.
- I have advised one particular homeowner that their property will be cleaned up by us if they have not done it by April 30. There are some real hazards there, including fire in the brush on the property.
- I attended a ½ day session re Emergency Preparedness on April 12. A good informative session.

PUBLIC WORKS REPORT .. Presented by Kevin Smith

- It looks like the snow is finally leaving us.
- We added gravel to 52nd street and cut and graded it. It seems to be holding up well. It will be graded again in a week.
- I'm getting the soft spots in town hardened up and will continue to stay on top of them until they are repaired.
- I will be getting some estimates for repairs to 49th Avenue at 50th Street, and getting cold mix prices for pot hole repairs.
- I've been working on the equipment getting it ready for summer, most of it is running well.
- The grader has been a crucial tool in getting 52nd street in decent condition.
- With spring coming, we're making plans for the lamp post flower hangers and planters.

MAYOR ROMANKO'S REPORT

Smoky Lake Foundation Meeting March 21, 2013

- Audited statements presented to board, very small surplus shown, but expenditures to be charged to the Building Fund once the grant comes in.
- Rick and Norm to meet with Kyle Latimer to sign final documents with TD bank for loan to complete project.

- Architect to prequalify the companies applying to build the new project. There was much discussion as to the legality of only inviting groups known to architect to bid on the contract. It was decided to open bids to all then let the architect prequalify the bidders. This may delay shovel in the ground until end of May.
- There was a discussion as to the final requirements for fill for project.
- We will be having a discussion with the interior decorator at the ASCHA convention.
- Rick will be meeting with Jeff and representatives of Minister of Senior Housing to learn of criteria for future.
- The managers have to submit profiles every month to Municipal Affairs.
- The lodges were inspected and Vilna passed, but BarVNook had a non-compliance because they did not record bath water temperatures on the weekends. This was rectified.
- Norm was to apply to Province for grant to cover the needs of Vilna Lodge:
 - -new floors in some rooms
 - -furniture
 - -blinds
 - -stain outside of building
 - -paint main area
- Afternoon spent going over budget proposals and finalizing new budget, resulted in slightly higher requisition, will be increasing rents by 10% for all units as well.
- Next meeting to be held on April 24.
- Doctor Recruitment Meeting March 27, 2013
- Meeting held at Smoky Lake Council Chambers, many changes in representation since the last meeting in September of 2010.
- Hank Holowaychuk elected chair with Dareld Cholak vice chair.
- Dealt with issues relating to the problems with nursing shortage in Smoky Lake hospital. Alberta Health no longer hires contract nurses and there is a nursing shortage in most regions. Alberta Health is in charge of all nurse hiring so no local advertising will be allowed.
- Wendy Harrison is Alberta Health's area representative and was not available at this meeting. She assured the board that Alberta Health is advertising and Smoky Lake emergency will not be shut down. Staff will be drawn from other sections to make up shortfall.

- The next item on the agenda was setting up the terms of reference for the Board, we are only allowed to deal with Doctor Recruitment and Retention.
- Dealt with on call locums and changes to fees as well as problems with them. Sometimes the locum is not on hand when they are supposed to be so coverage has to be made up by local doctors or paramedics and EMT's.
- The house, originally purchased by the County and the Town, is being purchased by the doctor, indicating that he will be here for the long haul.
- The next meeting will be held at the call of the chair, he will attempt to bring in an Alberta Health representative.
- Pat Palechuk attended the meeting as a non-voting member; she is the local representative on the Lakeland Community Health Advisory Council. She has promised to bring up local concerns to their meetings.

Community Bus Meeting April 2, 2013

- A meeting was held at the Vilna Lodge to discuss problems arising from the use of the Community Bus. It was the first meeting since 2006.
- The Senior Citizens Recreation Board was overly represented, so it was decided to limit the people with voting power.
- A new board was selected and Eugene Pelech was elected chair and I was elected vice chair.
- Each of the following groups is to be represented on the board with a member and alternate:
- Vilna Senior Citizens Recreation Society—Eugene Pelech/Pauline Kucher
- Village of Vilna—Don Romanko/Frank Barry
- Smoky Lake Foundation-Vilna Lodge—Norm Martyniuk/ Sandy Kingdon
- Smoky Lake County—Rick Cherniwchan/ Dareld Cholak
- Ladies Auxiliary—Ruth Pelahty/ Donna Barker
- Several problems were discussed including fueling, maintenance and scheduling.
- It was decided that the Lodge shall continue to be the dispatch center.
- It was decided that the bus should be under local control. Darlene Bodnar was elected Secretary Treasurer as a non-voting member of the board.

- A future meeting will be held to discuss and formulate Terms of Reference, the board members and alternates will be invited at the call of the chair.

Highway 28/63 Water Services Commission Meeting April 5, 2013

- Operations have had no large problems to deal with. The water in the line between Waskatenau and Smoky Lake was checked for bacteria, no problems.
- The engineers reported that Weaver Welding has encountered extremely bad soil conditions for drilling methods which may require alternative construction methods. These may include open cut trenching and/or installation of steel casing on the Smoky Lake/Bellis portion of the line. The board advised the engineers to allow changes as long as they do not exceed the contingency funds. They are approximately 69% completed.
- The Bellis/Spedden line is approximately 49% completed and they have encountered no problems.
- There were three bids for the changes to Vilna's pump station as well as Spedden and Bellis truck fills. NACON Contracting won the tender with a bid of \$1,514,666.
- The grant for Spedden truck fill was set a \$ 150,000 which was less than was hoped for, resulting in design changes.
- The Telus problem has still not been resolved; something has to be done before June 28. At the next meeting a decision will have to be made as to what future court action will be taken.
- The chair contacted MP Brian Storseth with regards to Telus and he has promised to contact the chair of Telus on our behalf.
- Next Meeting to be held on May 1 at Thorhild.

DEPUTY MAYOR BARRY'S REPORT

Citizens On Patrol

- On behalf of the Village and the Fire Department, I attended the last COPS meeting and presented Roy Dyck and Basil Tocheniuk with mementos of thanks and appreciation for their dedication to the community.

Age Friendly Symposium

I attended the Alberta Health sponsored workshop on Age Friendly Communities.

- The concept and ideas were not small community oriented, it was directed more to the larger communities who can afford to

provide services, infrastructure and facilities for their aging population.

COUNCILLOR FARMER'S REPORTS

Evergreen Regional Waste meeting – April 11th, 2013

- At the March Board meeting a motion was made by Dareld Cholak for Chairman Glen Ockerman to send a letter to Beaver River Waste Commission & to Waste Management inviting them to attend the April 11th meeting of Evergreen in order to negotiate tipping fees that would be acceptable for them to reconsider hauling their waste to the Evergreen Landfill. On April 4th, under the direction of Chairman Glen Ockerman, an email was sent out to the Evergreen Board members, by the Recording Secretary, Ashley Cozzens & was replied to by Dareld Cholak. (see attached)
- After much discussion, it was learned that Beaver River would not attend an Evergreen Board meeting. Instead Beaver River asked that Evergreen attend the next Beaver River Waste Commission Board meeting, to be held on Friday, April 19th at 10:00 AM. The Evergreen Board struck a committee to attend that meeting.
- Evergreen Site Manager, Ramona Arnett, was directed to contact Waste Management to set up a meeting with the Evergreen committee, at their earliest convenience, to be held in their Calgary offices. The Committee that will attend both meetings will include the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Site Manager & a representative from St. Paul Council. If an agreement is reached with either party, a legal contract will be drawn up shortly after.
- Statistics over the last 3 months show the decline in the monthly income:

Jan. 2012 - \$124,842.20	Jan. 2013 - \$81,899.70	(-\$42,942.50)
Feb. 2012 - \$127,467.25	Feb. 2013 - \$63,042.75	(-\$64,424.50)
Mar. 2012 - \$138,559.50	Mar. 2013 - \$72,640.67	(-\$65,918.83)

Statistics over the last 3 months show the decline in the total waste intake in tonnes:

Jan. 2012 – 2,062,920	Jan. 2013 – 1,238,320	(-824,600) T
Feb. 2012 – 2,154,670	Feb. 2013 – 990,930	(-1,163,740) T
Mar. 2012 – 2,413,670	Mar. 2013 – 925,090	(-1,488,580) T

If we cannot convince both Beaver River & Waste Management to come back to Evergreen, we are projected to have a deficit at the end of 2013 of (-\$634,202.46) with the budget that we have now.

- A motion was made at the March meeting to requisition all member municipalities for the deficit. It was disclosed that the Chairman of the Board chose not to send the requisition letter to Beaver River, explaining to the Board that he thought that it would have a detrimental effect on the negotiations to bring Beaver River back to the table. Discussion ensued

about not sending the invoice. At this point Dareld Cholak & Ron Bobocel left the meeting prematurely. There no longer was a quorum & the meeting was adjourned at 12:40 PM.

Next meeting scheduled for Thurs., May 9th @ 10:00 AM

N.E. Muni-Corr Board Meeting – April 8th, 2013

- Delegation – Orest Rusnak & Jim Thiede, came before the board & talked about their plan to return railroad service back to Northeastern Alberta. Bring merchandise & tourists from Edmonton to our region & to haul oil back from the reserves north of Cold Lake. This oil would then go through B.C. to Grey's Harbour, Washington. They talked about having to upgrade the tracks to a “286 rail bed capacity”. It was suggested that the delegation send in a presentation of what they have to offer & then arrange to meet with each Municipality's Council to discuss the economic advantages that they can offer.
- Delegation – Gene Sobolowski, Highway 28/63 Regional Water Service Commission talked about the progress of the water line & the problems that they were encountering west of Bellis with the sand, water & boulders. He said that the contractor will have to look at doing an open cut trench for approximately 150 metres between 2 trestles, where they cannot get equipment in. Both Marianne & Hector were on site.
- Good news. The Beaver River trestle did not shift over the winter.
- Bad news. A revised estimate has been received from Macdonald & Lawrence Timber Framing Ltd. & ISL Engineering adding another \$20,000.00 to the initial stabilization cost of \$30,000.00. Marianne to get back to them to explain the increase. Their powerpoint presentation shows an “A” frame being constructed on the North side (the unburned portion) of the trestle, with cables attached to the 2 girders, each weighting 38,000 lbs., that are resting on the burnt wooden column (see attached picture). Also the CIIF grant (Western Economic Diversification Grant) was not approved, it was to assist in the reconstruction of the trestle.
- RRTS (Riverland Recreational Trail Society) AGM will be held at Boscombe Hall on Monday, April 22nd at 6:00 PM. President Maurice Dargis has sent in his letter of resignation.
- The survey work has been completed in Bellis for the Stahl property. Smoky Lake County has contacted the Stahl's regarding the land needed for the Truck Fill. The Stahl's are now asking more for the land than the appraised value.
- The first bush party of the season was held at Edouardville. RCMP have been notified. Only way to that location is to drive on the trail, which is illegal.
- The Board approved the use of the Staging area in Bellis for the Iron Horse Motorcycle Show & Shine on June 29th, 2013. The Chamber had

already made plans to have this in Vilna with the Arena as a backup in case of inclement weather.

Next regular meeting – Monday, May 13th, 2013 @ 10:00 AM

Res. 063-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that the reports be accepted as information.
CARRIED

6. NEW BUSINESS

a) Amend MUNIX Agreement

Alberta Municipal Services Corporation has proposed an amendment to the MUNIX Subscribers Agreement. The amendments clarify various generalities including Power of Attorney, termination criteria, annual meeting information, premium calculation, etc.

Res. 064-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry the Council of the Village of Vilna agree to the amended and restated Reciprocal Insurance Exchange Agreement referred to as MUNIX, as proposed by AMSC.

CARRIED

b) Safety Codes Council policy changes

The Safety Codes Council has proposed changes to their Accreditation Policies, as a means to clarifying the difference between Accredited Corporations and Accredited Municipalities. The proposed policies were presented for review and consideration.

c) 2013 Election Information

Council was given a summary of Council responsibilities in preparation for the upcoming municipal election, including the Municipal Government Act amendment that changes the term from three years to four years.

7. BYLAWS AND POLICIES

a) Winter Snow Clearing Policy #402

Council reviewed Policy 402 regarding snow removal and winter road maintenance priorities. It was felt that minor changes were required.

Res. 065-13 Moved by Deputy Mayor Barry that, Winter Street Clearing Policy #402 be amended to adjust priorities.

CARRIED

b) Senior's Driveway Clearing Policy #601

The Village of Vilna has provided a driveway clearing program for Senior Citizens through FCSS for many years. Some issues over the past year

have indicated that a formal policy needs to be put in place to ensure fairness.

Res. 066-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the Seniors Driveway Clearing Policy #601 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

c) Bylaw # 498-13 ATCO Electric Franchise Agreement

The Electric Franchise Agreement provides exclusive authority to provide electricity distribution service to a municipality. The current agreement expired in December 2012, and a new agreement, using a format proposed by AUMA, has been presented.

Res. 067-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that 1st reading be given to Bylaw 498-13, Electric Franchise Agreement.

CARRIED

8. FINANCIAL REPORT:

Res. 068-13 Moved by Councillor Farmer moved that cheques #11818 – #11846 to April 10, 2013 in the amount of \$73,245.45 be accepted for information.

CARRIED

9. CORRESPONDENCE:

- a) WCB, re: National Day of Mourning
- b) Highway 28/63 2013 Proposed Budget
- c) Northern Lights Library System, Re: Annual Conference
- d) Victoria Trail Home Guard Historical Society
- e) Alberta Health, re: Ground Ambulance Services
- f) Smoky Lake Foundation, re: 2012 Financial Statements
- g) Smoky Lake Foundation, re: 2013 Budget
- h) Minister of Municipal Affairs, re: MSI Operating Grant
- i) Minister of Municipal Affairs, re: Award of Excellence
- j) Carillion, re: Services
- k) Smoky Lake County, re: Firefighters Honoraria
- l) Alberta Transportation, re: Federal Gas Tax Amending Agreement

Res. 069-13 Moved by Mayor Romanko that the correspondence be accepted for information.

CARRIED

10. NEXT MEETING:

- a) Emergency Preparedness Public Information Meeting, May 6th, 2013 7:00 p.m. at the Council Chambers
- b) Regular Council Meeting May 20th, 2013 at 7:00 p.m.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

Res. 070-13

Mayor Romanko adjourned the meeting at 10:40 p.m.

Donald Romanko, Mayor

Loni Leslie, CAO